

Lang, William Robert

July 1915. June 1916

Resolution

Military Committee [1915-16]

U. W. 16 480

Your committee is of opinion that Th. W. T. T. Wright
is from every standpoint the most suitable person
to command the battery & recommends that
if should you approve, Th Wright's name be
submitted without delay to ~~the~~ Military Headquarters
with the request that he be appointed to the
command. [Moved by Dean Ellis, seconded by Mr. Mickle.]
carried unanimously.

W. M.

July 9th, 1915

Professor W. R. Lang,

Niagara Camp.

Dear Professor Lang:

In the absence of the President I beg
to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 7th dealing
with the O.T.C., which I shall place in the President's Board
material.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.

In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Niagara Camp, August 19th, 1915.

From Lt. Col. W. R. Lang,

Niagara Camp.

To President Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto, Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

Would you be in favour of recommending to the Governors that one of the University Bds. be offered to the Militia Dept. as a home for a standing Provisional School of Instruction during the coming winter? I would suggest ~~new~~ Knox College, or the Residences North of Hoskin Avenue. The situation is this. In previous winters Provisional Schools have been held for periods of 6 weeks at a time in various centres in the Division, meeting from 3 to 5 nights weekly; but you can well understand the difference in training an Officer or N.C.O. obtains when in attendance from Reveille to Reveille in a camp or barracks as compared with these local night classes. This has proved itself during the current summer, and the prospect of reverting to the unsatisfactory local schools when the winter comes on, is far from pleasing to us who are responsible for turning out really competent officers. At a time like this it appears to me that the University's duty is to assist the Militia Authorities in every way, even to the extent of devoting a portion of its buildings wholly to the training of officers; the Empire needs these more than B.A's. at the present time.

Did we have the three residences or new Knox College, the C.O.T.C. might be combined with the Provisional Schools in the following manner:- Courses of 6 weeks duration for Militia Officers in the Division to the number of (say)

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Niagara Camp, August 19th, 1915.

From

To

50 — duly approved by the Militia Dept.— to be held, one following the other throughout the winter, these officers residing at the University as they would do here or in Barracks (which last are unavailable owing to the Dragoons and Prisoners of War occupying them). To run concurrently with these and housed with them, classes for (say) 100 selected members of the U.of T. C.O.T.C. to be formed for similar periods, these students giving their whole time (should they wish to be of the selected 100) and taking up the thread of their university work when finished. The ordinary C.O.T.C. training after hours would go on as usual. This would fall in with your own proposal to the Minister that the C.O.T.C. should be established on a permanent basis. It would be a great thing for the University to do and would redound to its credit for all time. The British Universities have practically handed over all their buildings and machinery to the War Office; why should we not do the same in a small way? Even from the selfish standpoint only — the support of the public— what Provincial Government could refuse the University anything, with the record of having devoted part of its buildings to the training of officers for the front?

The new battalions now formed have absorbed nearly every qualified officer in this Division and their establishments of officers is not yet complete. A large proportion of those at the present course are earmarked for the new

3.

M. F. B. 239.

300M-5-15.
H.Q. 1772-33-194.

In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Niagara Camp. August 19th. 1915.

From

To

battalions also as soon as qualified and I am asked daily by C.O's. for officers whom I cannot supply. Drafts go from here every few weeks and the strenuous training of young officers for the detachments replacing these drafts is a matter of some concern. Will the University help in the way I have suggested?

Yours faithfully,

M. Lang

Lt.Col. C.E.

i/c I.C. 2nd Div.

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correspondence on
this subject please
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Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Niagara Camp, September 7th, 1915.

From Lt.Col. W. R. Lang, C.E.,

Niagara Camp.

To President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I am directed by the Officer Commanding 2nd Division to ask you to place the request contained in this letter before the Board of Governors. Frequent drafts are called for from the Division which deplete the units not only of the men but of qualified officers and Non-Commissioned Officers also: the question of training their successors during the coming winter for overseas service has been seriously discussed by the Headquarters Staff. While the practice hitherto has been to send the Instructional Cadre to various centres, there to conduct day or evening classes, this has been found not to produce satisfactory results, and it is now considered desirable that such training should be given at Divisional Headquarters and a permanent school formed where this may be done under the conditions of barrack life. The Staff is of the opinion that it is essential that quarters be secured in Toronto for this purpose and Colonel Logie desires me to ask if the University would supply such. The three Residences are suggested, and the use of lecture-rooms &c. when not required for University purposes. He would recommend to the Militia Department should this request be granted, that the Department defray the cost of heating, lighting, repairs and renewals and of such servants as the Governors might consider necessary. Headquarters desires me to say also that the loaning of the accommodation proposed would be

To President Falconer, C.M.G.

Niagara Camp, September 7th, 1915.

greatly appreciated as the problem of finding a home for this most necessary work appears at present to be insolvable.

Colonel Logie wishes me to add that in asking the Governors for this he is well aware of the inconvenience to which it may put both Staff and students, and that only the greatest necessity would have caused him to formulate this request.

Yours faithfully,

M. Haug

Lt.Col. C.E.

O. i/c Instruction, 2nd Div.

Niagara Camp, September 7th, 1915

From Lt. Col. W. R. Lang, C.E.,

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Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) W. R. Lang.

Lt. Col. C.E.

Office Instruction, 2nd Div.

COPY.

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Niagara Camp, September 7th, 1915.

From Lt. Col. W. R. Lang, C.E.,

Niagara Camp.

To President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the Officer Commanding 2nd Division to ask you to place the request contained in this letter before the Board of Governors. Frequent drafts are called for from the Division which deplete the units not only of the men but of qualified Commissioned Officers also: the question of training these men during the coming winter for overseas service has been seriously discussed by the Headquarters Staff. While the practice hitherto has been to send the Instructional Cadre to various centres, there to conduct day or evening classes, this has been found not to produce satisfactory results, and it is now considered desirable that such training should be given at Divisional Headquarters and a permanent school formed where this may be done under the conditions of barrack life. The Staff is of the opinion that it is essential that quarters be secured in Toronto for this purpose and Colonel Lodie desires me to ask if the University would supply such. The three Residences are suggested, and the use of lecture-rooms etc. when not required for University purposes. He would recommend to the Militia Department, should this request be granted, that the Department defray the cost of heating, lighting, repairs and renewals and of such servants as the Governors might consider necessary. Headquarters desires me to say also that the loaning of the accommodation proposed would be

greatly appreciated as the problem of finding a home for this most necessary work appears at present to be insolvable.

Colonel Lodge wishes me to add that in asking the Government for this he is well aware of the inconvenience to which it may put both Staff and students, and that only the greatest necessity would have caused him to formulate this request.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd) A. E. Lee

Colonel Lodge

Colonel Lodge, 100 Ave.

September 28th, 1915

Colonel F. S. Land,

Windsor-on-the-Lake.

My dear Colonel Land:

I have been confined to bed for nearly a week and have overlooked one or two things that should have been attended to. One of these is to receive your approval for a Sunday service for the C.O.I.C. on November 14th. Principal Sutton has undertaken to give the address, and we are reserving that night for the Marines' committee also. I hope that this date will fit in. By that time the C.O.I.C. should be well underway, and the end of the winter should not have been reached.

With much respect, I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. S. Land.

October 11, 1965

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,

Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Dr. King:

I am writing you a letter from Principal Grady
about the proposed march on the White House. Whether we will carry
out the march on 10/11/65 or not is the business of the
Student Union. I have written you with the C.I.O.
I have also written you with the A.F.L. I have also written you with the
U.M.W. I have also written you with the I.W.O.B. I will at once communicate
with the Civil Liberties Union. I will also give instructions that they
will get the 10/11/65 of the march. I will get authority
from the 10/11/65.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

October 1915

My dear Mr. Jones,

Thank you.

Very respectfully,

It will be interesting to see
 the result of the gift of the book to the
 library. The book is now in the library
 and is now being read by the library.
 The book is now in the library and is now
 being read by the library.

Very respectfully,

Yours truly,

Yours truly,

In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Niagara Camp, October 9th, 1915.

From Lt. Col. W. R. Lang, C.M.,

Niagara Camp.

To President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I have both your letters dated yesterday. In reply to the purely academic one, let me say that I gladly nominate Professor Miller for the position on the Post-Graduate Board.

Regarding the O.V. College, I do not think that the authorities at Ottawa will sanction the formation of an independent unit there, nor would I recommend it, especially if it is to be trained by us. It would be much better that the Vets., being officially students of the University of Toronto, attach themselves as a platoon to our O.T.C. This is, in fact, what we offered to do last year but the Principal wished to have an independent command. You had better intimate to Principal Grange that we shall be glad to have his students as part of the Corps. Get LePan to arrange that they be attached as a platoon to one of the Medical companies and, if possible, let someone on the Vet. College Staff - of whom yourself and LePan can thoroughly approve - be appointed the platoon commander. This arrangement will meet their requirements and will keep them in touch with the parent institution. It is, thus, quite unnecessary to trouble Ottawa in the matter at all as it rests with the University to decide what Faculties or Colleges are to be admitted to the privileges of the U.of T. C.O.T.C.

To President R.A. Falconer, C.M.G. Niagara Camp, October 9th, 1915.

I trust that you are quite better now. We find it pretty cold here and I think my family will be returning to Toronto next week. I hope to be back before the end of the month.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

M. Lang.

P.S. Your letter of 9th regarding a successor to Fotheringham has just come in. It is extremely difficult to say, off hand, who would be the best man. Perhaps you would send me that pamphlet containing the names of members of Senate and Faculty Councils, when it would be much more easy for me to select names for your consideration. It seems to me essential that the person selected should possess a certain knowledge of military matters, especially in connection with procedure.

ML.

Bramfitt remains on as Aft: his headquarters will be the technical school all winter as that suits O.M.

ML.

October 21, 1941

Mr. Colonel W. E. Lamb.

My dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of the 17th.

Mr. White says that when this matter is discussed with the members of our Military Committee, Mr. White's name, was mentioned as Mr. Brackley. I suppose that Mr. Brackley's place will be automatically filled when you choose your winner. Mr. White's name may be more difficult to choose than. I am sure you will eventually find a winner that seems to you.

Yours sincerely,

Frederick.

Transfer List

Officer Commanding

University of Toronto Depot, U.C.C.

Officer Commanding

Mr. [Name]

PROPOSAL concerning an Overseas Training unit.

In view of the formation of the new battalions recently authorized and the consequent demand for trained officers & recommended officers in foreign the personnel of these units and of others to be raised, the University of Toronto U.C.C. officers in receipt of Infantry unit, recommended to a battalion, to be composed of Infantry and other of a type from which officers and non-commissioned officers could be made. The corps to be so an Active Service Corps, the Staff, Instructional Staff, & Company Officers to be liable for Overseas Service, and all admitted to it to be offered as recruits for Overseas Service. The unit to be instructed and trained with a view to the members qualifying for commissions in the U.C.C. rank. Authority to be granted for manning units held from time to time, as far as officers of instruction, for maintenance qualifying for the various camp units - non-commissioned and non-commissioned, and members to be retained under training until needed or retained to overseas units to that capacity for which the individual has proved himself best fitted. The unit to serve as a permanent Training & Reserve Depot for officers and U.C.C.

Only men who are going overseas to service in Infantry Regiments, Infantry, and other units, whose education, training and qualifications fit them to become officers & U.C.C., and who stand as representatives of quality through the ranks of such a corps as to have got-on, their services might be used to better advantage.

It is suggested that this unit be called the Canadian Overseas Training Corps (Institution of Depot). Therefore the unit would be of about 1000 men in the initial stages - to be found in the training about to be used by the Infantry

school of Infantry, with a possible expansion in one or other of the University of Toronto's buildings near by. The school now offered would be performing the same function as the School of Infantry, only on a larger scale and in a more permanent form, having always a supply of students ready to be commissioned and issued into Overseas units, or to be transferred to them as R.C.O.s, and this with no further cost to the public than that involved in the upkeep of an overseas battalion.

Officers of Militia units, Fit for Overseas service, could be attached to the corps for periods of training corresponding to the requirements of the units for which they desired to qualify, and it would then automatically absorb the Preparatory School of Infantry about to be commenced in Toronto.

In Great Britain similar contingents of the C.F.C. have been acting in this capacity. One has been stationed in France for about a year, and its work has received the high commendation of its authorities.

Lieut.-Colonel C. F.

Command, U. of T. C.F.C. & I.C. Det. Div.,

December 7th, 1915

Colonel J. E. Hunt,
School of Instruction,
Fort Monmouth.

My dear Colonel Hunt:

I am sending you another letter asking
about your recommendation for the promotion of Mr. [Name]. I gave told Mr. [Name] that you had said that you had.

He has been very much interested in
the matter and has been very anxious to
know what you had to say. I am sure that
your recommendation will be of great value to the
School of Instruction.

Very sincerely,

Respectfully,

December 26th, 1915

Colonel W. E. Land,
Toronto.

Dear Colonel Land:

I am sending you a set of copies of information which was distributed to our Canadian troops in France. They came to me from Lt-Colonel Mitchell and I thought they would be of interest to you. If you can use them in any way for our own use, but please keep them strictly confidential.

Sincerely yours,
J. E. B. Fraser,

Major-General.

Enclosure.

616

M. F. B. 239.

300M—8.5.

H.Q. 1772-39-194.

In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Toronto, January 26th, 1916.

From Lt.Col. W. R. Lang, G.S.,

O.C. U.of T. C.O.T.C.

To President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for sending me General Gwatkin's letter regarding payment of Capitation Grant. If this is sent to you direct will you kindly pass it to Mr. Reed who acts as treasurer to the funds of the C.O.T.C.? He will then, with great satisfaction, send a cheque to the Bursar for the advance which the University has been so kind as to loan to the Corps.

Yours sincerely,

WM Lang

February 1st, 1916

Lt.-Colonel M. B. Lang,
Toronto.

Dear Colonel Lang:

I am informed that Mr. H. H. Underhill who enlisted as a private in one of the University Companies is now at the front and has been thought of as being likely to make a good officer if he were transferred from the ranks and given a commission in the British or Canadian Army through the C.T.C. Mr. Underhill is a man of such distinction and also of a high devotion to duty that I feel confident that he would adorn a commissioned officer's position and devote his energy and ability in the most servicable way to his country's good.

Yours sincerely,

President.

Department of Militia and Defence,

Ottawa, Canada,

February 11th, 1916.

My dear Lang,

Ontario Agricultural College
C.O.T.C. Contingent.

With reference to my letter H.Q.
32-1-238 dated 6th instant:

|| Last Wednesday afternoon Dr. Falconer
told me that he would himself communicate with
the President of the Ontario Agricultural College;
and, for my own part, I intend to lie low and
await developments.

Yours very sincerely,

H. Gwalthni

X President Falconer:
please.

For your information

WHL

16 II 16

In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Toronto, February 15th, 1916.

From Lt. Col. W. R. Lang, G.S.,
School of Instruction.

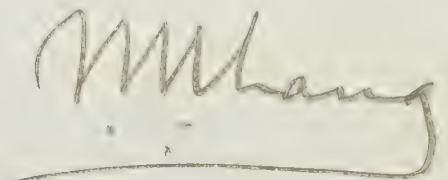
To President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,
University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I attach a letter from Dean Clarke and my answer thereto for your information. On mature consideration, as McTaggart is now directly under the British Government we cannot appoint him in absentia a lieutenant in the C.O.T.C., neither would it affect him over there did we do so, for in the General Hospital he is an enlisted man. What I would suggest to you is to write to the Minister of Militia quoting Colonel Roberts' remarks, or a part of them - say the part I have underlined, omitting reference to the O.T.C. - and draw his attention to the academic qualifications which in your opinion would warrant McTaggart being given the honorary rank of lieutenant in the Expeditionary Force. This, I think, should meet the circumstances. I am sending a copy of this to Dean Clarke to let him know what I have done.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,





DEAN'S OFFICE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

February 20th, 1916.

Colonel W.R.Lang,
Department of Chemistry,
University of Toronto.

Dear Col. Lang:-

In a letter received from
Colonel Roberts two days ago, the following paragraph
occurs:-

" I have been wondering if it would be possible to get some recognition for McTaggart. I would like to see him with a commission, at least with the rank of Lieutenant. He has done exceptionally good work in the X-Ray Department under the most unfavourable conditions imaginable, and has by his patient, quiet, conscientious methods earned the good will of every member of the hospital staff. We would all greatly appreciate his promotion and gladly welcome him to our mess. I would suggest that you discuss the matter with Col.Lang and see if it would not be possible to get him the rank of Lieutenant in the Officers' Training Corps and then have him seconded for service to this Unit through the Militia Department at Ottawa. Specify that he is to act in the special capacity of Officer in charge of the X-Ray Department."

What do you think about it, and
is there anything you can do?

Yours sincerely,

G.H. Clarke,
Dean.

Toronto, February 12th.

6.

Lt.Col. W. R. Lang, G.S.,
School of Instruction.

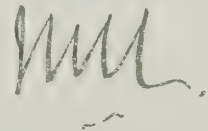
Mr. C. K. Clarke,
Toronto General Hospital.

Dear Mr. Dean,

Your letter regarding McTaggart to hand.
We all appreciate McTaggart thoroughly and I shall
take the matter up with the President of the Uni-
versity as to the best method of having him advanced
to commissioned rank. At first sight the course
suggested by Colonel Roberts, namely, giving him
a commission in the C.O.T.C. would not probably
secure him the overseas commission. but I have
another scheme in my head which, if it passes
Ottawa, will bring the desired result. Leave it
in my hands for a few days until I have the scheme
fully worked out. when I will communicate with you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. L.' or similar, with a small flourish underneath.

March 24th 1916

Colonel A. B. Lang,
Toronto.

My dear Colonel Lang:

Both these letters came to my own house during my absence and consequently were not forwarded to you. I have written Mr. Heard to say that I am forwarding the letters to you with the request that you should deal with them at the earliest possible moment.

Yours sincerely,

President.

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

In reply please quote

No.

Toronto, March 29th, 1916.

President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,
University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I attach a draft report called for by the Regulations and which should be in the hands of the G.O.C. by the 31st of March. It has been carefully checked by me and is now ready for your signature.

Yours faithfully,

W. M. Lang

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

In reply please quote

No.

494

Toronto, March 31st, 1916.

Memorandum for President Falconer.

Dear Mr. President,

Re Sinclair Battley. It now rests
with you to put forward a request through
Militia Headquarters, Ottawa, that this man be
returned to Toronto and discharged.

Yours sincerely

W. M. Chang.

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

In reply please quote

478

No.

Toronto, April 12th, - 1916.

Memorandum for President Falconer.

Will you kindly signify your
approval of the two documents attached
and pass to Mr. Reed at the Orderly Room
for payment?

McLaur.

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

In reply please quote

No.

149 College St.,

Toronto, June 14th, 1916.

President R. A. Falconer, C.M.G.,

University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

It has struck me several times that it would be a graceful acknowledgment of the interest taken in the C.O.T.C., and of the kindness of the various colleges, in allowing the School of Instruction, - doubtless because it is officered mostly by C.O.T.C. officers, - to hold their Sunday Services in their various chapels, if you were to seriously consider writing to the Secretary of the Militia Council and asking that they authorize the appointment as Honorary Chaplains of the C.O.T.C. of the following;- the Provost of Trinity College, the Superior of St. Michael's College, the Principal of Wycliffe College, The President of Victoria College, the Principal of Knox College.

You might think over this and if you consider it a good ^{idea} ~~suggestion~~ perhaps you would write as suggested.

Yours sincerely,

M. M. Lang.

1873